



**STATE OF CONNECTICUT
JUDICIAL BRANCH**

EXTERNAL AFFAIRS DIVISION

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**Testimony of Deborah J. Fuller
Government Administration and Elections Committee
Public Hearing
March 12, 2010**

**Raised Bill 423, An Act Concerning Recommendations of the
Connecticut Town Clerks Concerning Disclosure and Elections Laws**

Thank you for the opportunity to submit written testimony, on behalf of the Judicial Branch, on *Raised Bill 423, An Act Concerning Recommendations of the Connecticut Town Clerks Concerning Disclosure and Elections Laws*.

The Judicial Branch is strongly opposed to section 1 of this proposal. This section would create a major hole in the protection that the current statute provides for classes of persons whose position or employment subjects them to an elevated risk of threats, danger and violence by allowing town clerks and registrars of vital statistics to disclose their residential addresses to anyone who requests them. State judges and Judicial Branch employees are protected by the current statute, in recognition of the fact that the work they do can subject them to an increased threat of danger. This is not mere speculation – there have been numerous instances where judges and Judicial Branch employees have been subjected to threats of violence and some instances of actual violence. Because there is no evidence that these threats are diminishing, we believe that there is a continuing need to protect our judges and employees from dangers arising out of their employment. We urge the Committee not to delete this section of this bill.

Thank you for your consideration.